

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COLOMB 02987 302013Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 COME-00 EB-08 /020 W
-----114816 012014Z /75

R 300642Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 719

UNCLAS COLOMBO 2987

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BTRA/CE
SUBJ: VISIT OF TEXAS INSTRUMENTS VICE PRESIDENT

REF: STATE 164448

1. ECON OFFICER INFORMED DR. SIVALI H. RATWATTE, DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL (INVESTMENTS), GREATER COLOMBO ECONOMIC COMMISSION, OF PROPOSED VISITS OF JOHN CANTRELL (JULY 6-7) AND VICE PRESIDENT DALE CUNNINGHAM (JULY 8-10). RATWATTE SAID HE WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO MEET WITH CANTRELL ON EITHER THE 6TH OR THE 7TH. IF CANTRELL WISHES TO TALK WITH OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION, THAT CAN BE ARRANGED AFTER HIS ARRIVAL. RATWATTE REQUESTED FLIGHT INFORMATION ON ARRIVALS OF BOTH CANTRELL AND CUNNINGHAM IN ORDER TO HAVE THEM MET AT AIRPORT.
2. AS COMMISSION IS THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY FOR THE FREE TRADE ZONE, WE DO NOT PLAN TO MAKE ANY OTHER APPOINTMENTS FOR CANTRELL. HOWEVER, IF HE WISHES TO MEET WITH OTHER GSL OFFICIALS OR PRIVATE SECTOR REPRESENTATIVES, WE WILL BE PLEASED TO ARRANGE ADDITIONAL APPOINTMENTS. ECON OFFICER IS PREPARED TO BRIEF CANTRELL ON EMBASSY VIEW OF PRESENT INVESTMENT CLIMATE AND TO ACCOMPANY HIM TO MEETING WITH RATWATTE.
3. ECON OFFICER ALSO SPOKE WITH UPALI GUDAMUNNE, PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO FINANCE MINISTER RONNIE DE MEL, TO ARRANGE FOR CUNNINGHAM TO MEET WITH THE MINISTER. GUDAMUNNE SAID MINISTER DE MEL NORMALLY SPENDS WEEKENDS IN HIS ELECTORAL DISTRICT, AND HIS SCHEDULE ON MONDAY, JULY 10, IS VERY TIGHT. HE PROMISED TO DISCUSS CUNNINGHAM S

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- VISIT WITH THE MINISTER AND TO TELEPHONE THE ECON OFFICER EITHER FRIDAY, JUNE 30, OR THE FOLLOWING MONDAY. WE WILL REPORT FURTHER AFTER GUDAMUNNE CALLS.
4. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE ADVISE FLIGHT INFORMATION ON CANTRELL AND CUNNINGHAM, AND WHETHER CANTRELL WOULD LIKE TO MEET WITH ANYONE OTHER THAN THE COMMISSION.
- LEVIN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978COLOMB02987
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780272-0887
Format: TEL
From: COLOMBO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978065/aaaaadkc.tel
Line Count: 62
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4bb65087-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 164448
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2316044
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT OF TEXAS INSTRUMENTS VICE PRESIDENT
TAGS: BTRA, CE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4bb65087-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014